(e) the action taken by the Government for the proper inspection of the wheat consignments before their shipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b).Some consignments of wheat from India were detained by the Turkish and Moroccan authorities as they were found to be infected by Tilletia Indica (Karnal Bunt) fungus. All consignments, except one, have been re-exported from Turkey/Morocco. One consignment of wheat is still in quarantine in Morocco.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Norway, Bulgaria, Hungary, Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Russian Federation (including the independent Republics of Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyztan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan), Algeria, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, China, Vietnam, New Zealand, El Salvador, Honduras, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay have banned import of wheat infected with Tilletia Indica (Karnal Bunt) fungus. In addition Canada and Mexico are known to regulate the import of wheat from countries where Karnal Bunt is known to occur.

(e). Inspection of wheat for issuing Phytosanitary Certificate at the time of export for quarantine purposes is being carried out by the Directorate of Plant Protection and Quarantine, Ministry of Agriculture or the Directors of State Agriculture authorised for this purpose by the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage.

Subsidy on Fruits

2036. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of subsidy provided by Agricultural and Processed Food products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to Lichi, Mango, Mushroom cultivators and exporters during each of the last three years:

(b) whether the subsidy given to them have been actually used and proportionate quantity of real export and cultivation took place during the above period:

(c) if so, whether the Government ever physically investigate in the actual operation in the field:

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to investigate the proper utilisation of subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total amount of financial assistance provided by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under its various schemes as well as the air freight subsidy provided for selected floricultural and horticultural products and vegetables (including Lichi, Mangoes and Mushrooms) during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

1993-94	511.65
1994-95	615.14
1995-96	675.00

(b) to (d). Financial assistance is provided by APEDA on a reimbursement basis. The amount of financial assistance is released to the beneficiary only after the required expenditure has been icurred by the beneficiary on the approved items. In certain cases like infrastructure development i.e. pre-cooling units, grading/packaging units, refrigerated vehicles, quality control systems, financial assistance is released only after verification of the facility by APEDA.

(e) Does not arise.

Saving Rate

2037. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a considerable fall in saving rate in the country: and

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor and the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) As per the latest data available with the Central Statistical Organisation the saving rate measured as a ratio of gross domestic savings to gross deomestic product at current market prices showed a sharp increase from 21.4 per cent in 1993-94 (provisional) to 24.4 per cent in 1994-95 (Quick estimates).

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Meat and Livestock

2038 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of meat and livestock exported and the foreign exchange earned there from during 1995-96 in comparison to 1994-95, country-wise and item-wise:

(b) whether the Government have considered the modernisation of slaughter houses and factories in the country and to extend this facility to the exporters of meat and its products through Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA): and

(c) if so, the details thereof: location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total quantity of meat and livestock exported and the

foreign exchange earned during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is given as under:-

Export of meat

(Qty: in lakh MT)
(Value : in Rs. Crores)

1994-95		1995-96	
(Qty.)	(Value)	(Qty.)	(Value)
1.31	397.25	1.82	624.72

Export of live animals

(Qty: in lakh numbers)
(Value : in Rs. Crores)

1994-95		1995-96(P)*	
(Qty.)	(Value)	(Qty.)	(Value)
28.00	2.65	87.91	8.78

*(P)- Provisional
(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

Country-wise and item-wise details are available in the Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India, Volume-I (Exports) published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, copies of which upto December, 1995 are available in the Parliament Library. Country-wise and item-wise export figures for the month of January, February and March, 1996 are not available.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. APEDA provides financial assistance upto 50% of the cost of upgradation/ modernisation to the public sector slaughter houses/ processing plants engaged in export production to enable them to meet the international standards. Financial assistance under the scheme is being provided since 1989-90. Financial assistance provided upto 1995-96, location-wise, is as under:-

Year	Assistance Provided (Rs. in lakhs)	Location
1989-90	3.93	Idgah Slaughter House, Delhi
1990-91 to 1995-96	63.00	Deonar Abattoir, Bombay.

Functioning of Indian Institute of Plantation Management

2039. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the functioning of Indian Institute of Plantation Management; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Trade Agreements

2040. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the countries who have shown interest in increasing trade with India during the last six months;

(b) whether any trade agreement has also been signed by India with those countries during the above period;

(c) if so, the details of areas identified in this regard, country-wise; and

(d) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Efforts to promote bilateral trade both by India and by its trading partners is a continuous process. A large number of countries including countries in North America, Latin America and Caribbean region, Behrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Republic of Yemen, Syria, Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Iraq, Sudan, Tunisia, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, CIS countries, all major countries of East European region etc. have shown interest in increasing trade with India during the last six months.

(b) to (d). During the last six months, no trade agreement has been signed by the Government. However, a joint declaration on terms of reference for establishing the Indo-Brazilian Commercial Council was signed during the visit of the Brazilian President to India on 27.1.1996. The Council will further develop and strengthen trade, commercial and investment ties between the two countries.

[English]

Judicial Reforms

2041. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a leading organisation of Industry of the country has submitted a report on need of judicial reforms in the country;

(b) if so, the main features thereof: